

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-26 are pending in the application. Claims 1-7, 17, 19-23 and 25-26 have been canceled. The Examiner is thanked for indicating the allowance of claims 9-16 and the allowability of claims 8, 18 and 24.

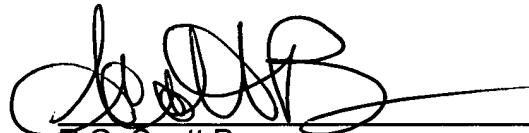
**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, claims 8-16, 18 and 24 are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 425.455.5575.

In the event additional fees are due as a result of this amendment, you are hereby authorized to charge such payment to Deposit Account No. 07-1897.

Respectfully submitted,



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